GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2106
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
DEVELOPMENT OF PLACES AS TOURIST HUB
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to develop Madurai, Thanjavur, Ayodhya and some other religious important places as tourism hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the above places are likely to be developed as tourism hubs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of various tourism destinations & products including religious tourism is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for tourism projects identified in consultation with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to Scheme Guidelines.

The Ministry of Tourism does not earmark any funds to develop important religious places as tourism hubs. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned funds to the State Governments of Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh during the 11th Five Year Plan for the following tourism projects for tourism infrastructure development in Madurai, Thanjavur and Ayodhya.

Sl. No.	Name of project	Year of Sanction	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Development of pilgrimage heritage circuit Madurai-Rameshwaram-Kanniyakumari as a Mega Project in Tamil Nadu.	2010-11	36.47
2.	Development of Thanjavur under Mega Tourism Project in Tamil Nadu.	2010-11	14.75
3.	Revitalization of Ayodhya (Faizabad) as a special Tourist Destination.	2008-09	4.98